

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING:CJ

APPROVED BY P:MR. HABIB

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O R 202100Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T STATE 088966

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, SA, SO, UR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA CONCERNING SOMALIA

REFS:A) JIDDA 2863; B)MOGADISCIO 634:C) STATE 78514

1. FOR JIDDA: DEPT PLEASED THAT SAG DESIRES COORDINATE
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OUR POLICIES AND ACTIONS CONCERNING
SOMALIA AND LOOKS FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE
WITH PRINCE FAHD (OR PRINCE SAUD) IN LATE MAY IN

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WASHINGTON. PRIOR TO THAT, WE FEEL SAUDI SUGGESTION
FOR VISIT TO JIDDA BY DEPARTMENT OFFICER(S) MOST
TIMELY FOR PURPOSE MAINTAINING MOMENTUM OF CONSULTATIONS.
WE ARE PLANNING SEND DEPARTMENT OFFICER(S) FOR THAT
PURPOSE DURING LAST WEEK APRIL OR FIRST WEEK MAY BY
WHICH TIME WE HOPE HAVE RESULT DIRECT CONVERSATIONS
BETWEEN AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN AND SOMALI PRESIDENT SIAD

AND BETWEEN AMBASSADOR ADDOU AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

2. REFTEL A REFERS TO SAG BELIEF THAT SOMALI GOVT (GSDR) "IS READY FOR A MAJOR REORIENTATION OF THEIR BASIC OUTLOOK AS FAR AS USSR AND US IS CONCERNED" AND REFTEL B REFERS TO AMBASSADOR ADDOU'S STATEMENT SOMALIA

PREPARED "TO GO ALL THE WAY" WITH US. SAG INDICATES SOMALI INTEREST IN GENERAL WHILE ADDOU PLACES GREATER EMPHASIS ON SOMALI DESIRE FOR US MILITARY HARDWARE. AS YOU AWARE, WE ARE NOT YET IN A POSITION TO SAY TO SAG OR SOMALIS WHAT, IF ANY, US MILITARY EQUIPMENT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY TO MEET SOMALIA'S LEGITIMATE DEFENSIVE NEEDS. THERE ARE OTHER WESTERN SUPPLIERS AND WE HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED REVIEW OF OUR WORLDWIDE ARMS TRANSFER POLICY.

3. YOU SHOULD INFORM SAG THAT:

A. US PLEASED THAT SAG WISHES COORDINATE RE SOMALIA AND LOOKS FORWARD TO CONTINUING HIGH LEVEL CONSULTATIONS WITH SAG AS SITUATION IN HORN AND SOMALIA UNFOLDS. DEPARTMENT PREPARED SEND OFFICIAL(S) CONCERNED WITH HORN OF AFRICA AFFAIRS TO JIDDA IN LAST WEEK APRIL OR FIRST WEEK MAY BY WHICH TIME WE EXPECT HAVE BENEFIT OF TALKS BETWEEN OUR AMBASSADOR IN MOGADISCIO AND PRESIDENT SIAD AND BETWEEN SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

B. USG IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH PRINCE SAUD'S STATEMENT
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TO SOMALIS (PARA 3 REF A). WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN EQUAL BASE FACILITIES WITH SOVIETS IN SOMALIA NOR IN SUPPLANTING SOVIETS AT THOSE FACILITIES. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMALIA PURSUE TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT, WITH SOVIETS OUT OF SOMALIA FACILITIES.

C. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (I.E. PARA 3F AND I OF REFTEL C) CONCERNING THE MAGNITUDE OF SAG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SOMALIA AND WHAT SPECIFIC AND REALISTIC CHANGES IN SOMALI BEHAVIOR DOES THE SAG EXPECT TO SEE AND IN WHAT TIME FRAME. IN THIS CONNECTION WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY AVAILABLE DETAILS OF "IMPORTANT" AID COMMITMENTS ADDOU CLAIMS PRINCE SAUD MADE DURING HIS MOGADISCIO VISIT (REF B, PARA 4).

D. AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN IS BEING INSTRUCTED NOT TO RAISE SUBJECT OF SAUDI AID IN DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT SIAD AND DEPT WILL NOT RAISE WITH ADDOU. .

4. FOR MOGADISCIO: WE APPRECIATE VIEW YOU EXPRESSED
DURING RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN DEPT OF NEED TO PROCEED
WITH DELIBERATION IN FEELING OUT SOMALI INTENTIONS RE
POSSIBLE READJUSTMENT ITS RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND USSR.
HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM BOTH WITH
SOMALIS AND WITH SAUDIS, WE FEEL IT IMPORTANT THAT YOU

PROCEED WITH APPROACH TO SIAD ASAP IN ORDER FOR US TO BE
IN BETTER POSITION PURSUE CONSULTATIONS WITH SAUDIS IF
NECESSARY IN LAST WEEK APRIL. IN ACCORDANCE PARA 3D
ABOVE, YOU SHOULD REFRAIN FROM INITIATING WITH SIAD ANY
DISCUSSION OF SAUDI AID.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE088966
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWHITING:CJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770137-0862
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770437/aaaabfpc.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6809b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 JIDDA 2863, 77 MOGADISCIO 634, 77 STATE 78514
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2745876
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA CONCERNING SOMALIA
TAGS: PFOR, SA, SO, UR, US
To: JIDDA MOGADISCIO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6809b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009